Coloured Ration Cards

6641. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
DR. C. SILVERA:

Will the PIRME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue coloured ration cards to the citizens of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ration items are proposed to be issued to persons having annual income of Rs. 10,500/- on the green card only,; and

(d) if so, the time by which these new ration cards are to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). Delhi Administration has reported that they have no proposal to issue coloured ration cards. The Public Distribution System is universal in character and does not distinguish the beneficiaries based on income or occupation.

Revamping of Cycle Corporation of India

6642. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governent of West Bengal have requested for re-vamping the Cycle Corporation of India and making it viable;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to revamp the Cycle Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Cycle Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) has been incurring losses from its inception due to various reasons such as old and outdated machinery, excessive manpower, high cost of production, difficult liquidity position etc. Govt. have plans for revival/rehabilitation of CCIL which cover aspects such as modernisation of plans and machinery, rationalisation of work force, capital restructuring etc. However, the Company is one of those who have been referred to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Coal to Power Stations

6643. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governent have received complaint to the effect that the actual quantity of coal received by the power houses of Uttar Pradesh and various other factories in private sector in the country is less than the quantity declared to be sent by railway rake from coal mines, the coal is of inferior quality and it is not supplied in time; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir. There have been some complaints from power houses in Uttar Pradesh and other coal consumers in the country regarding shortages in weight of coal received, poor quality of coal and delayed delivery of coal.

(b) Government have advised coal companies to strengthen their quality control infrastructure, instal weighbridges for proper weighment, grade the coal correctly, and establish coal handling plants so that all coal is eventually despatched through these plants. Coal companies have also set up national and regional coal consumers councils for redressal of consumers' complaints/ grievances.

[*English*]

HMT Watches for Children

6644. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether HMT proposes to manufacture colourful and attractive watches for children;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the cost of such watches; and

(c) the special features of these watches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Details are being finalised. These watches will be mostly in digital range in plastic cases.

[*Translation*]

Distribution of Essential Commodities through FPS

6645. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat, rice, sugar and other items supplied to the distributors of fair price shops from the foodgrain godowns are substaintially underweight;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether complaints have been received in this regard during the last three years from the Societies, reputed citizens and important persons by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi and the Commissioner, Civil Supply Department;

(d) if so, the details of the complaints thereof and the nature of action being taken on these complaints;

(e) whether there Government propose to ensure the supplies in proper weight to the distrubutors; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRUBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED); (a) and (b). Delhi Administration has reported that wheat and rice are issue of Food Corporation of India to Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation for transportation and delivery at the doorsteps of the fair price shops. Bag to bag weighment of foodgrains is done by FCI labour. Stocks of sugar are issued on standard weight basis. As the quantity involved is substantial, variation in the quantity of the bags, due to factors like loss of moisture, multiple handlings and cuts in bags cannot, altogether, be ruled out.